

Explore Bethlehem Parks & Recreation Spring 2016 Newsletter

THE ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT



This year's annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on the lawn in front of Memorial Pool on Illick's Mill Road at 10am on Saturday, March 19, 2016.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt is for Bethlehem Residents Only and their children ages 3 through 8. For information, call the Recreation office at 610-865-7081. As a reminder to all parents, please do not pick up the candy for your children. There is plenty of candy for everyone!

BETHLEHEM RECEIVES COUNTY GRANTS

On February 4th, Northampton County's Open Space Initiative awarded the City of Bethlehem Parks Department a grant for the amount of \$63,000. This grant will help fund projects at both Elmwood and Martin Luther King Parks within the City. Both playgrounds are in need of upgrades to equipment and this grant will go towards creating more attractive parks for the surrounding neighborhoods.

BOUNCE INTO SUMMER

Bubble Soccer returns to the City of Bethlehem on Saturday, June 11th. Teams will be able to register online or in the Parks Dept at City Hall. For more information,

email Mark Atkinson at matkinson@bethlehem-pa.gov



sports

BETHLEHEM GOLF CLUB

Golf season is right around the corner. Now is the time to fine-tune your swing with our golf pros over at the Bethlehem Golf Club. Coupled with the indoor driving range, the Bethlehem Golf Course also features a Flightscope 3-d Doppler Launch Monitor. The Flightscope provides real-time data on your swing, club face angle, ball rotation, impact angle, swing plane, distance and a host of other golfing benefits!

Call today to reserve the room by yourself or to schedule a lesson with one of our highly experienced golf pros.

Paul Viola, Director of Golf, PGA 610-691-9393

pviola@bethlehem-pa.gov

Mark Csencsits, PGA 610-428-3434

Eric Cogorno, PGA 610-703-5520

<http://www.bethlehemgc.com>

SAND ISLAND TENNIS

Located on Historic Sand Island, the City of Bethlehem's Public Tennis Courts are truly unique - featuring a Clubhouse and Eight Har-Tru (Clay) Tennis Courts with an underground watering system that ensures consistent play through-out our Summer Season. Whether you need a few lessons, are a casual player, or enjoy the competitiveness of a league, Sand Island has it all for young and old. Season passes and daily rates are available.

Our 2016 season officially opens on Saturday, May 28. The deadline for signing up for the summer leagues is Friday, May 20th. Junior programs start the week of June 20 with clinics, match play, and travel team. Adult clinics and private lessons will be available. Come out and enjoy one of Bethlehem's treasures.



YOUTH SPORTS

For the youth of Bethlehem, there is a wide range of sports organizations. Each youth organization is managed independently from the City of Bethlehem but utilizes the City's facilities. Youth athletics are an integral part in child development and help build character later in life.

There are 6 Little Leagues serving Bethlehem. Participants must register with the league that is closest to their residence.

The leagues offer baseball and softball and are open to boys and girls ages 5-16. For more information about the league, sign up dates, locations, please contact the individual leagues.

City Line L. L.

Keith Kullman

484-894-9148

keithkullman.city@gmail.com

North East L. L.

Amy Young

610-865-9287

[www.eteamz.com/
NortheastLL/](http://www.eteamz.com/NortheastLL/)

Lehigh L. L.

Gene Ashner 610-691-5234

Keith Ashner

www.lehighlittleleague.org

North West L. L.

Mike McGraw

484-554-4321

[www.eteamz.com/
nyaa/](http://www.eteamz.com/nyaa/)

North Central L. L.

TJ Herstitch

484-515-6675

[www.eteamz.com/
NCLLBethlehem/](http://www.eteamz.com/NCLLBethlehem/)

Southside L. L.

Jose Gonzales

610-867-219

ADULT RECREATION SPORTS

As spring rolls around, it is time to start thinking of warmer weather. With the warm weather comes picnics, barbecues, and outdoor sports. The City of Bethlehem Recreation Department operates two summer leagues for adults, slo-pitch softball and adult basketball. For more information about these leagues, please contact the Recreation Office at 610-865-7081.

summer

WILDLANDS CONSERVANCY

We have partnered with Wildlands Conservancy to help bring their sought-after summer camps to Monocacy Park in Bethlehem! There are 6 weeks of outdoor fun, education and adventure for explorers entering kindergarten through grades 6+. Mornings, afternoons, or full day options are available. Each session offers a different theme.

Wildlife Camp - June 20-24

This week we are building naturalists. We'll flip rocks, explore the Monocacy Creek and riparian zone as we ignite an interest in biological sciences. Games and crafts are part of the fun.

Secrets of the Forest - July 5-8

This week we will explore myths and legends of magical beings that care for the natural world and all its creatures. We'll build a fairy village in the far reaches of Monocacy Park and search for a gnomes buried treasure.

Outdoor Skills Camp - July 11-15

This week's camp involves lots of hiking, some backpacking, a little camping, and a whole lot of fun! We'll incorporate many of the activities that are necessary for survival.

Outside Art - July 18-22

Campers this week will learn how to uncover the art hidden in nature and nature discovered through art. We will use different techniques to create arts and crafts from natural materials. Photography, drawing, painting and other basic art skills will be introduced and practiced.

Ecowarriors Camp - August 1-5

Our planet is a wonder. While we can't explore the entire Earth in a week, we can dig into the habitats at Monocacy Park. Simple everyday habits can have a negative impact on nature and a slight adjustment can wipe out that impact.

Water Camp - August 8-12

Summer is in full swing and it is time to get wet and wild. This week is about everything that is found in and around or is impacted by water. Frogs are splashing and dragonflies are crawling out of their molts and we are ready to get wet and wild.

Extended Camp Hours are available before and after camp. Please contact Maureen Ruhe, Director of Education Administration, at 610.965.4397, X136 or mruhe@wildlandspa.org for more information, pricing and program space.

SUMMER FUN

The City of Bethlehem's Annual Summer Day Camp will continue this summer at the Ice Rink on Illick's Mill Road. The Camp is for boys and girls ages 7-12 and will run Monday through Friday from 10AM to 3PM. There are four 2-week sessions which begin June 20th. The cost is \$175 per session. Activities include swimming, arts & crafts, sports, games, & special events. Children must bring their own lunch. Swimming lessons at Memorial Pool are also part of the daily activities.

Our playground programs at various city parks open June 20th to August 5th and are held at various parks throughout the city. All kids are welcome. Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an older sibling (at least 12 yrs old). Children will participate in games, arts & crafts, field trips, swimming, and much more. There are morning and evening sessions available. For more information, dates, and availability, please call the Recreation Office at 610-865-7081 or visit our website:

www.bethlehem-pa.gov/parks

CITY POOLS

The City of Bethlehem operates 5 public pools and there is a good chance you live near one. Pools will open for the summer on June 11th. With reasonable daily rates and season passes, there is nothing like cooling off in a pool during the dog days of summer. Pool hours and rates vary by location.

Swimming lessons are offered for pre-school (ages 4-5) and youth (6-up) in a group format. Adult, semi-private, and private lessons are also available based on request. Class sizes are limited, so registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, dates, and availability, please call the Recreation Office at 610-865-7081 or visit our website: www.bethlehem-pa.gov/parks

summer cont.

MOVIES IN THE PARK

The Bethlehem Movies in the Park is our annual summer series offering free movies on the big screen at a local park near you. The Movies are FREE to the public, including popcorn! We invite the neighborhoods to come out and enjoy a night under the stars to see both new and classic movies on our state of the art movie screen and surround sound system.

The popularity and success of Movies in the Park is due to the fact that it is free to the public, which is made possible by our great movie sponsors. We have 3 sponsorship levels available!

Title Sponsor: \$3,000 (All Movies)

- Name Recognition on all movie advertisements, correspondence and pre-show advertising.
- Banner, signage and table set up at all movies.

Event Sponsor: \$600 (1 Movie)

- Pre-show slideshow advertising
- Banners, signage and table set up night of movie.

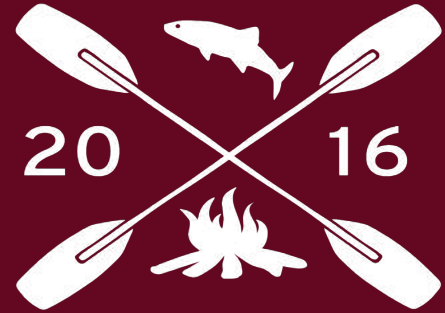
Popcorn Sponsor: \$100 (1 Movie)

- Cover the cost of Popcorn for show
- Name recognition before show

Look for the official flyer and schedule soon.



BETHLEHEM



ADVENTURE CAMP

Adventure Camp is a week long camp starting June 13th and is for City youth ages 13-15. Kids will go biking, rock climbing, and more. Space is extremely limited and fills up fast. The camp is a collaboration between the City of Bethlehem Parks Dept., DCNR, and Wildlands Conservancy. Please email Mark Atkinson at matkinson@bethlehem-pa.gov for more info and camp availability.

SUMMER LEARNING

Summer Learning Day is a national advocacy day led nationally by the National Summer Learning Association & locally by the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley. The program stresses the importance of providing kids the opportunity to continue learning during the summer months. Research shows that kids experience learning loss when they do not engage in educational activities during the summer. This can lead to a loss of about 2 months of grade level equivalency each year. This gap is experienced greater amongst lower income students due to unequal access to summer learning opportunities.

There will be a Summer Learning Registration event held at Broughal Middle School on May 12th where parents and kids can learn more about what programs will be offered throughout Bethlehem.

To help prevent the summer slide, the City of Bethlehem Parks Dept. will be running a Summer Learning Book Drive. Books will be accepted at all City Pools throughout the summer, and in the Bethlehem City Hall Lobby. Books will then be donated to the Cops 'n' Kids Reading Room and be available for neighborhood kids.

the charles a. brown ice house

ICE HOUSE TONIGHT

In November 2011, representatives of six regional arts organizations met to discuss the viability of creating a recurring performance series called Ice House Tonight at The Charles Brown Ice House on Sand Island. The premise of the series focuses on regional artists and arts organizations and providing an eclectic blend of performances covering different genres of dance, music, theatre, and poetry. Since the Ice House is located between two vibrant downtowns with great restaurants, Ice House Tonight offers a conveniently located “Dinner and a Show” option to Bethlehem’s night life.

STEVE BROSKY: THE MUSICAL

LIVING HERE IN ALLENTOWN

Fri. March 11 at 8 p.m., Sun. March 13 at 3 p.m.

Sat. March 19 at 8 p.m.

CROWDED KITCHEN

SHROPSHIRE LAD

Sat. March 12 at 8pm Fri. March 18 at 8 pm

Sunday March 20 at 2 pm

SOUTHSIDE FILM FESTIVAL PRESENTS

Sat. March 26 at 8 p.m.

TOUCHSTONE THEATRE: “Bhadoo” SONY DSC

Thurs. March 31 at 8 p.m., Fri. April 1 at 8 p.m.,

Sat. April 2 at 8 p.m., Sun. April 3 at 2 p.m.

Directed by JP Jordan. Written & performed by the Touchstone Ensemble. Touchstone presents a new devised work exploring the path of three merchants in competition of life and death as they travel an ever-shifting journey between deception, delusion, and divinity.

BASEMENT POETS

Thurs. April 14 at 8 p.m.

POETRY NIGHT

Sat. April 23 at 7 p.m.

“Art that Lifts You: Part II.” Matt Wolf, host.

Sponsored by Bethlehem Area Public Library.

TAPE SWAP RADIO

Fri. April 29 at 8 p.m.

Local artist showcase.

CONCERT TO BENEFIT BETHLEHEM’S HOMELESS

Sun. May 1 at 6 p.m.

Concert to benefit the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter, which provides shelter and services for the homeless in the City of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. All profits will be donated directly to the BES.

For more information regarding show and tickets, visit icehousetonight.com or contact Doug Roysdon at doug@mockturtle.org



Facilities

PAVILIONS

The City of Bethlehem offers 6 pavilions available for rental in 3 very different parks. There are two in Saucon Park, which boast plenty of open space, Saucon creek and play equipment. Two are located in South Mountain Park, which is a wooded area and home to an 18 “hole” disc golf course. The remaining two pavilions are located in Monocacy Park where you can enjoy a scenic walk along Monocacy Creek, and is a short distance away from the Bethlehem Municipal Golf Course and Memorial Pool. The City’s pavilions are available from April to October, 9am to dusk.

The pavilions are a perfect place to host a birthday party, family reunion, or even a wedding!

Reservation fees are as follows

Weekday	\$75 Resident	\$100 Non-resident
Weekend	\$100 Resident	\$150 Non-resident

To check pavilion availability, you can call us at 610-865-7081. To reserve a pavilion you can come to the Parks and Recreation Office in City Hall (Rm 506) or complete the form online. Payments must be made in full when making the reservations. No refunds. Pavilions are reserved on a first come, first serve basis.



South Mountain Upper Pavilion

FACILITY RESERVATIONS

Ice House

The Charles A. Brown Ice House is an indoor facility that can host birthday parties, dance showcases, performing arts, weddings and other events.



Fields

There are a variety of athletic fields available for rent, including soccer, rugby, softball and lacrosse.



Rose Garden

The Bethlehem Rose Garden is available for rental for weddings, pictures, and special events.

Illick's Mill

The Historic Illick's Mill in scenic Monocacy Park is now available for rent. Wedding receptions, birthday parties, bridal showers, and more are all welcome to be held at the Mill.



For more information, costs, and availability, please contact the Parks and Recreation office at 610-865-7081.

RESTORATION OF MONOCACY PARK

The City of Bethlehem has partnered with Wildlands Conservancy to restore the Monocacy Creek as it flows through Monocacy Park. The Monocacy Creek is classified by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection as a High Quality Coldwater Fishery, but unfortunately, the Creek is not as healthy as it should be, and it is therefore included on the State's list of impaired waterways.

As it flows through Monocacy Park, the Creek is significantly altered from its natural state and several rock dams. Growing residential and commercial development in the watershed has led to severe flooding damage and storm water management issues in the Park, and throughout the City. Railroad ties installed in the 1980's to control stream bank erosion are now being undermined and falling into the stream. The tall, stately sycamore trees along the Creek are leaning dangerously and their roots grow more and more exposed as stream banks continue to erode. The nearly complete absence of streamside, or riparian vegetation in the Park is greatly exacerbating erosion.

Many of Monocacy Park's historic sycamore trees are poised to fall, as erosion of the unstable streambanks continues to worsen. Mowing in the floodplain leads to dramatic streambank erosion and over-widening of the stream channel. The attempt to prevent further streambank loss by installing railroad ties is unsafe, ineffective, and aesthetically unappealing.

This summer, the rail road ties will be removed and stream banks will be graded to a gentle slope. Native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers will be planted throughout the park, fish habitat enhancements will be created, and the Creek will be restored to its natural width. In addition to these improvements, the Appalachian Mountain Club has recently moved into the historic Illick's Mill. They will serve as stewards of Monocacy Park and will be a vital community partner during and after the Monocacy Creek restoration project.

The ultimate goals of this project are to improve water quality and in-stream habitat conditions, to restore the riparian and floodplain zone, and to create opportunities for resident and park goers to experience a little bit of nature in the City. The City envisions the restored Monocacy Park as a place where people can fish and play in a clear clean stream as a place where nature lovers can watch birds darting across the Creek, and where anyone can relax quietly under a shady tree.

The Monocacy Park restoration project is one of many environmental improvement efforts happening in the City. The City is also partnering with Wildlands Conservancy and the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission to complete an environmental assessment of the entire Monocacy Creek watershed. Stream habitat restoration projects are being implemented throughout the City, lawns are being converted to naturalized areas, and invasive plant species are being managed throughout the City parks system.

For more information, please contact the Parks department at 610-865-7081.

The City of Bethlehem Parks, Recreation, and Public Property
10 East Church St. Bethlehem, PA 18018



@BethParksNRec

Robert J. Donchez - Mayor
Ralph Carp - Director
Jane Persa - Recreation Administrator
Mark Atkinson - Recreation Coordinator
Office Staff
Bambi Coyle, Judy Stiles



/BethlehemParks
/BethlehemCreek